



May 3, 2017

From: George S. Massengale  
To: Zoning and Housing Committee  
Date: May 4, 2017 at 9:00 A.M.  
Re: Bill 47, Relating to Accessory Dwelling Units

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### Testimony in Support

Chair Pine, Vice Chair Anderson and members of the Zoning and Housing Committee. I am here today on behalf of Hawaii Habitat for Humanity Association and our two Habitat affiliates on Oahu, Honolulu and Leeward, to offer our support on Bill 47. This bill would extend the repeal date in Ordinance 16-19 until June 20, 2020.

As many of the committee members are aware Hawaii Habitat for Humanity in partnership with The Appleseed Center for Law & Equal Justice recently constructed an Accessory Dwelling Unit on State Capitol Grounds at the beginning of April last month. The goal was to actually show residents on Oahu who may be interested in building an ADU on their property a typical example of what an ADU looks like. In the ADU itself was information regarding the city's permitting process, and examples of other ADU models. The ADU was staffed with Habitat and Appleseed staff and volunteers who fielded many questions.

We would note for the committee that visits to the ADU averaged 350 daily for the two-week period the unit was on site. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive, suggesting much interest within the community and that many existing homeowners are seriously considering building an ADU on their property.

We believe that extending the ADU sunset date is a very practical and prudent step. It would allow existing homeowners additional time to look at various ADU model options and select the one best suited for their property.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony here today.

Respectfully,

George S. Massengale  
Director, Community Engagement

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